

THE MCGILL DAILY

Volume 80, Number 22

Since 1911.

Wednesday, October 17, 1990

No progress at ANEEQ congress

by Alex Poulis

A congress held last weekend by Québec's major student federation was marred by poor attendance, continued low spirits and seemingly illegal elections.

For the second time in five months, the Association nationale des étudiantes et étudiants du Québec (ANEEQ) failed to achieve quorum and therefore to elect an executive council at its meeting Saturday in Montréal.

Three of the executive candidates—Nathalie Emault, Eric Guindon and Yves Breton—were elected to ANEEQ's Montréal regional council, but this election may have been illegal by ANEEQ statutes.

Guindon and Emault's school

association, the Association générale des étudiant-e-s de l'Université du Québec à Montréal (AGEUQAM), is officially boycotting ANEEQ, complaining of overcentralization and intransigence.

Guindon and Emault cannot legally be elected unless endorsed by their home association.

Breton's election violated the requirement that all ANEEQ elections be announced two weeks in advance.

Former ANEEQ information officer Stéphane Lessard justified the breaches by explaining that "each area council has its own statutes and rules. And each is self-governing."

He said the charter of the

Montréal regional council states that for elections at meetings it is unnecessary to send programs two weeks ahead of time.

"For regional councils, concerning elections during the school year, each candidate must send his or her programme two weeks in advance to each student association," Lessard clarified.

Lessard also said the 'central council' is the main decision-making body of ANEEQ, and can function without an executive.

No sign of improvement

Members of various ANEEQ-affiliated associations did not have kind words to say about the situation.

"There's no sign things are

improving dramatically," said Concordia University Students' Association VP External James Brown. (Concordia may hold a referendum this fall on pulling out of ANEEQ.)

"In my opinion, the three people elected don't offer any possibility of change," Brown said. "At this point, they don't have any idea what's wrong with ANEEQ."

"They think ANEEQ's problems originated when ANEEQ last Spring temporarily gave up its principle of free tuition."

The most active students in ANEEQ right now are from student associations dominated by the Groupe Action Socialiste (GAS), a Marxist 'vanguard' cell with members on every ANEEQ

executive of past years.

Non-GAS schools have become disillusioned with this state of affairs, and are demanding reform.

"I feel disappointed," said Guillaume Vaillancourt, secretary of the CEGEP Saint-Laurent student society, which voted against the Montréal council slate. Vaillancourt said he thinks the GAS people are out of synch with reality.

AGEUQAM external representative Yves Fortier said the weekend's events will exacerbate the tensions between ANEEQ and its base, and make it more difficult to hold onto members.

Grad autonomy skeleton creeps out

by Susana Béjar

Thirty years of Students' Society hegemony have taken their toll on McGill graduate students. Now that the latest initiative on the autonomy question has been shelved, grads say their frustration is growing.

Michael Temelini, president of the Post Graduate Students' Society (PGSS) says he is losing patience fast with Students' Society executives. For grads it looked like the sun was coming out when council struck a committee this fall to examine possible solutions, including secession.

Last week, Students' Society president Kate Morisset put the committee on hold.

Temelini says the action is both a stalling tactic and evidence of internal confusion. "I don't think Students' Society knows what it wants," he said.

Morisset has been recorded on many occasions describing the issue of graduate secession with weighty words. Just yesterday she said, "the reason this has taken so long is that this is a really major decision. It is fundamental to what the Students' Society is and does."

But Temelini says the issue has been debated ad nauseum for 30 years.

"There's nothing left to discuss, but now they say they need another eight months," he said, stressing that the current delay has grads worried this issue will be resolved by year's end.

"We wanted a commitment that they won't use delay tactics and

drag out the issue, then decide against putting the question to a referendum. That's what happens every year. The new Executive talk about negotiating, then stall until election time and don't do a thing."

Morisset agrees that this is the year for action and says she doesn't want to hand it over to another executive unless absolutely necessary. "I've made it quite clear to Michael and to council that we are functioning in good faith."

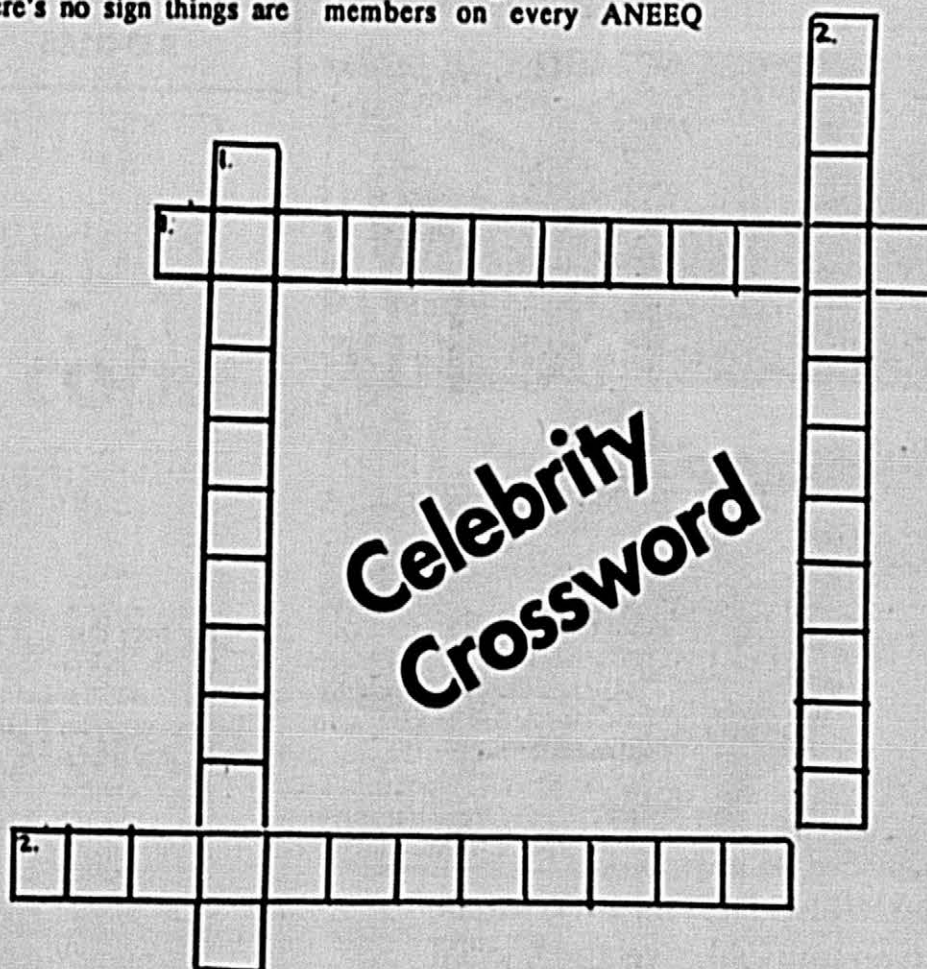
Now that McGill's pet Fédération des étudiantes et étudiants du Québec (FEEQ) has launched a membership drive, McGill's closet skeleton is fully exposed and causing trouble. RACSQ, Québec's graduate student federation, has suspended negotiations with FEEQ, in solidarity with PGSS.

The suspended relations between FEEQ and RACSQ could permanently jeopardize FEEQ's relations with graduate associations throughout the province.

Last week Students' Society VP External Alex Usher issued a press release condemning PGSS for bringing FEEQ into their internal politics when they have not exhausted all available democratic channels.

The press release further exacerbated the problem. "It's so frustrating to be told we aren't using all the available channels. We've used every last resort we have," said Temelini.

PGSS needs the support of two-thirds of the Students' Society council in order to run a campus-wide referendum on autonomy.



CLUES

ACROSS.

1. Who endorsed spending \$24 000 on an "information kiosk"?
2. Who turned down \$900 000 in aid for McGill students?

DOWN.

1. Who takes a really long time to make "really major decisions"?
2. What rhymes with "I hate my corset"?

There are only three graduate councillors per year.

Morisset said she could not commit herself to a referendum. Nor would she discuss what solutions the executive are presently studying.

For Temelini the solution is simple — let McGill students decide.

"We have to let students themselves decide on grad autonomy. The question has to be put to the student body."

"But it doesn't look like its going to happen," said Temelini. "When Kate says we'll resolve the issue in March, we can't help but be cynical. We've heard it before."

Today's meetings

News writers at 16h.
Photographers at 17h15.

In
Union
B-03.

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No love affair between Palestine and Iraq

by Alex Roslin

In the wake of the Gulf crisis, Palestinians have been portrayed as mindless supporters of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. This view is simplistic and obscures the situation, say members of Montréal's Palestinian community.

Long-standing grievances against the United States have led many Palestinians to see the invasion chiefly as a welcome upset of the status quo and of American power, even as most despise Saddam Hussein's long history of brutality.

"It's a sad thing that a dictator like Saddam Hussein has acquired the image of a saviour, but that is what U.S. policy has led to," said Hatem Salman, of the Fondation Québécoise d'Aide au Liban.

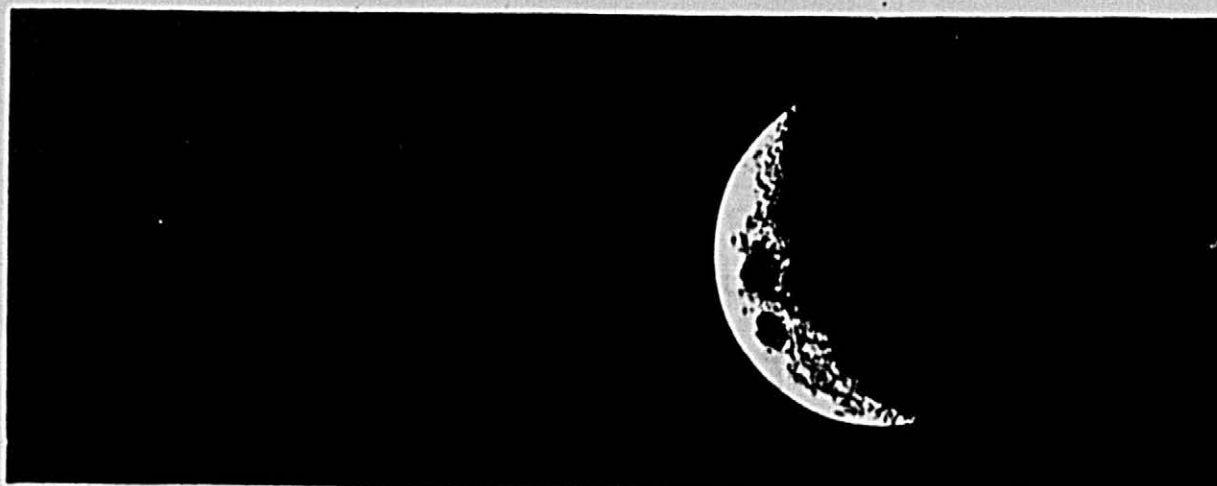
There is a great deal of popular resentment among Arabs because of their grim lot in the international distribution of power, Salman said.

According to many Arabs, the Middle East is the hapless victim of Western geopolitics. Some of the

most powerful Arab states, like Egypt and Saudi Arabia, have become little more than U.S. clients, Salman said.

Among Arabs, Palestinians are perhaps the worst off under the existing status quo, and the most bitter. "Palestinians are so desperate many are willing to die," according to Christina Fernandez, who spent three weeks in the occupied territories this summer. Fernandez, a recent engineering graduate from the University of Alberta, gave a presentation recently at McGill.

Palestinians' hopes for a better life have been dashed by deteriorating socio-economic conditions, according to Abdul-Malik Al-Jabir, of the General Union of Palestinian Students, which organized the presentation. Adding to the frustrations, Al-Jabir said, are two years of fruitless discussions between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and the U.S. government on a Palestinian state. The negotiations finally broke down last summer.



According to Rex Brynen, professor of political science at McGill, Palestinian frustration with the U.S.-backed status quo is the reason for the PLO's opposition to U.S. intervention in the Gulf. From the outset, the PLO has issued unequivocal condemnations of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, he said, but Palestinians reacted with alarm when the U.S. started its military buildup in the Gulf.

"PLO Chair Yassir Arafat isn't particularly fond of Hussein, but he got nothing from the U.S. in the negotiations," Brynen said. "Arafat has always successfully moved with Palestinian opinion, and his position among Palestinians was probably stronger after he opposed the U.S. intervention."

For Arabs terrorized by decades of Western oil politics, Salman said, last Monday's massacre of 19 Palestinians in Jerusalem makes it even

harder to ignore the contrast between Washington's moral and material support for Israel and its brutality toward Palestinians. The U.S. waffled for five days in the UN before lending its support to a mild Security Council rebuke to Israel.

Said Salman, "The American military buildup in the Persian Gulf is yet another sign that people in the Middle East, particularly Palestinians, are pawns of Western power."

BOG BRIEFS

The Board of Governors (hereafter called BoG) is the decision making body of the University and either initiates or approves all official business. Of the 44 members, just four are students. BoG held its monthly meeting on Monday.

MUNASA muffled

BoG is still refusing to discuss legal action between non-academic employees and the University, claiming it could compromise legal proceedings.

MUNASA, the association of non-academic employees, filed a grievance against McGill for excluding 100 Dairy field technicians from MUNASA benefits. When the grievance was ignored, two of the field technicians went to Québec Superior Court for arbitration.

In response, McGill filed a motion in court to block arbitration.

When MUNASA reps to BoG brought forward two motions challenging McGill's actions last month, BoG chair Alex Paterson banned discussion and threw out the motions.

But MUNASA returned to BoG on Monday to challenge the chair's ruling.

Principal Johnston read a letter from McGill legal counsel soundly supporting the position that the affair was sub judice and hence off-limits for debate.

Emeritus Governor Jean Richer jumped to his feet to tell the board that he'd consulted three legal experts. "They nearly laughed in my face," he said, referring to the chair's ruling.

He went on to point out the damage such action could cause to McGill's image, stressing that the technicians are mostly French Canadians.

Paterson eventually moved the MUNASA item to 'Confidential Business' and the board discussed it in closed session.

The dispute will be heard in court November 21 and 22.

New Dean crunches numbers

About half of the students applying to McGill are rejected by admissions, and half of the half accepted turn the offer down.

These statistics were among a stream spewing from the new Dean of Admissions Abbott Conway as he presented his inaugural report to BoG on Monday.

Of the 15 690 students who applied in 1990, 45 per cent were seeking placement in Arts. In descending order, Management, Science and Engineering are the next most popular schools.

Undergraduate enrolment increased in Québec by less than one per cent this year, the lowest provincial rate in Canada. At the Master's level enrolment is up four per cent and there are more PhD candidates than last year — nearly eight per cent more.

In the years between 1981 and 1989, total applicants increased 43 per cent. The figure peaked in 1984 and has since declined, primarily among francophone applicants.

Conway cited politics and McGill's comparatively low cash awards as the reasons behind the decline.

—Heather Mackay

Police unable to cope with spousal violence

by Rachel Rose

Blanca Castillo says police incompetence and insensitivity made her go public about the abduction of her children by their father.

Castillo hasn't seen her two youngest children since September 7, the day their father kidnapped them. Her lawyer, Sylvie Schirm, said Castillo has not received the help she needed from police.

Schirm was so angered by four weeks of police inaction she held a press conference last week with Auberge Transition, a shelter for battered women, to open the matter to public scrutiny.

The police officers' response to this case is symptomatic of the lack of training officers receive, Schirm said.

"One day in four years is certainly not enough" training on how to cope with conjugal violence. Schirm said a permanent and continual dialogue is needed between police and women's shelters.

A police department spokesperson refused to comment on Castillo's allegations of inaction.



"It's really dangerous for the children. I need help. Their father is really dangerous," Castillo told reporters last Friday.

Since August, Castillo has had sole custody of the children. Castillo recently moved out of Auberge Transition and into an apartment in Lasalle with her three sons.

Castillo left two children with her husband, Victoriano Lopez, over the Labour Day weekend. When she went to pick them up he pulled the children into the apartment and locked the door.

Castillo called the police at Station 44, showed them her custody order and begged them to remove the children from their father.

She said one officer told her, "I'm a father too. Fathers have rights too."

Schirm said police seemed more interested in Castillo's citizenship than the children. Castillo is from El Salvador.

Police would not accept the court order proving she had custody — her copy was missing one of three signatures.

Eventually, Castillo entered the apartment with police and found two suitcases packed with the children's clothing. She told police she feared Lopez would leave the country with them. The police replied there was nothing they could do, she said.

Castillo then called the local police station in Lasalle where she lives. They called Schirm who confirmed that Castillo has a valid custody order and asked that the police return to Lopez's house. They didn't until early the next morning, said police spokesperson Norman Couillard.

Police said they were unable to act without a belief that the children were in danger. One police spokesperson said the house looked lived in, the TV was on, and Castillo couldn't think the children were in danger if she had left them with Lopez.

Schirm said the kidnapping was just another form of violence against their mother for which the police are ill-equipped.

THE MCGILL DAILY

EDITORIAL

An eye on the Tory sharks

When you are submerged in turbulent waters, it's easy to forget to raise periscope and check out what's circling, sharklike, above you. Students in Québec, distracted by tuition fees and intramural squabbles, are paying no mind to the federal government's flashing teeth.

The Mulroney clan peddles a national vision more threatening to accessible education and the quality of student life than any tuition hike. What's more, their malfecancy will continue to plague Canadian students even after all our caps and gowns are mothballed.

The Tory record speaks against itself. This summer, while student unemployment rates heralded recession, public funds went into military action against our First Nations. The army was also dispatched to defend, in part, oil pricing interests in the Middle East. On both fronts, golf and Gulf, the government plainly said it wanted no public debate and refused to seek prior parliamentary approval.

These actions have already negated the government's moral authority. Yet the fall session of parliament has brought no repentance. Rather, Mulroney's economic and political attack on Canadians has redoubled.

Last year, Brian treated us to social program, VIA Rail and education subsidy cuts. This year, the GST looms in the limelight. Millions of dollars have already been spent, and all checks on government power bulldozed, to clear its way.

And, of course, Mulroney has failed as a cultural leader. Thanks to his macho grandstanding on Meech Lake and his cabinet's disregard for First Nations, the Canadian constitution is now being treated as little more than paper. Québec cannot achieve a new deal in the resultant climate of bitter cynicism.

To say the Tories have a mandate would be a patent lie. This agenda was not explicit in the party's last campaign (though it was perhaps implied by the Free Trade deal). If Mulroney had admitted his real intentions, he would never have been elected.

The polls amply confirm the Tories are governing without popular support. Their 12 to 15 per cent approval rating is the lowest on record.

There is only one moral choice for Brian Mulroney: To dissolve parliament and call an election. If he refuses, Québec students should join opposition, labour and grassroots groups to press for an end to this charade.

Staff of The McGill Daily

HYDE PARK

Animal rights day

This Friday is Animal Rights Day at McGill University. Groups from across Montreal will be setting up tables on the main floor of the Union Building. T-shirts, books, and information will be available. "Cruelty-free" beauty products from La Coupe, The Body Shop, and M.A.C. will be raffled off. There will also be a display of cosmetics and household products that aren't tested on animals, and a professional make-over artist will be looking for volunteers at noon.

The event was organized by META, the campus group that believes that animals, like humans, deserve the right to lead lives free from confinement, deprivation and human cruelty. The projects for this year include: a campaign to enact a policy that will grant students the right to opt out of dissection if they are ethically or religiously opposed; and the promotion of "cruelty-free" products and vegetarianism.

META has a library of books and articles that can be borrowed. Meetings are held every one and a half weeks at 16h30 in room 410, Student Union. The next meeting is Monday, October 22 and there will be a Vegetarian Week November 5-9 in room 107/8. Everyone is welcome to join META, and you need not be vegetarian or against all animal research. Any effort for animals helps. For more information call 276-0914.

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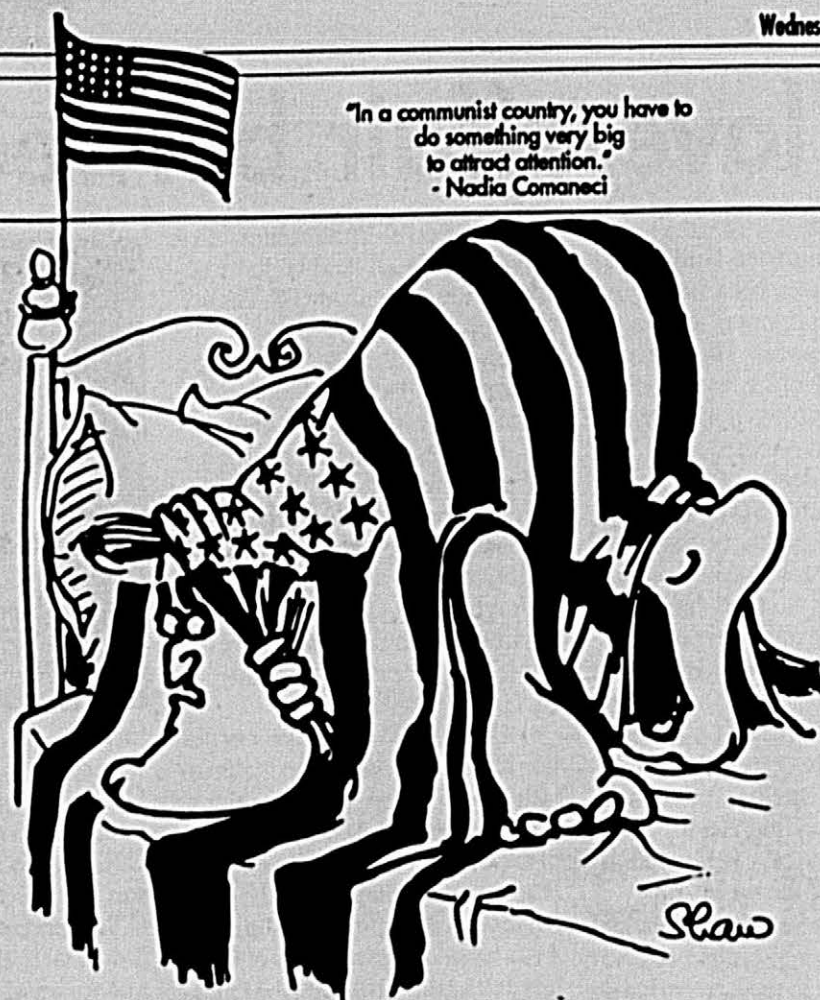
The Daily is a founding member of Canadian University Press, Presse étudiante du Québec, Publi-Peq and CampusPlus.

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"In a communist country, you have to do something very big to attract attention."
- Nadia Comaneci

"I'm not a man, I'm a lawyer!"

LETTERS

Fight infantillism with Infantillism

To the Daily:

I found Colin Krivy's brutal and scathing criticism of the recently published *Pillar* tasteless and ridiculous. For obvious reasons, the flow of articles during the summer is radically reduced and thus I commend those who actually contributed something to the magazine. Mr. Krivy really going to be our literature-poetry-art-politics critic all in one and judge a paper by the size of the letters in the editorial credits? The stories are "amateurish." Yes I believe they are students. What are you Mr. Krivy? Doesn't the new art expert realize that a "hilarious cartoon advertisement" is not visually judged under the same category as artwork? I do not wish to go on a "pick" in the same pompous and tedious manner as Mr. Krivy so expertly did. Could we please have some positive literary criticism next time, and not the infantile, frustrated attempt of a wanna-be critic.

Ayala Gowan
BA U3

One-sided?

Dear Sirs (sic):

Student journalism has sunk to new lows with the publishing of the October 15 edition (page 7). Apparently, the criterion of fair, even handed and unbiased reporting has eluded your editors and what has resulted is nothing more than an exercise in propaganda.

Exactly at what point in the

Daily's history did it merely become a slanderous soap box, offering an entire page of condemnation without the slightest hint of an opposing opinion?

Your editors may firmly refute this criticism by singing the praises of an unalienable right to freedom of speech. If this is the Daily's motivation, would the position not be stronger if your editors had the guts to stand up, report all the sides to an issue and trust the students of McGill to make up their own minds?

It is truly terrible that McGill student Al-Jabir had to watch his friends dying on television, but keep in mind that it is no more tragic than it was for the McGill students who had to hear that their friend Mamie Kimmelman was killed by terrorists while sun tanning in Tel Aviv or to the friends of Fern Rijkiss, who was killed in a bus attack outside Jerusalem.

There is no question that Israel, like all states, deserves criticism, but if peace in the region (for everyone) is the goal, then the one-sided 'Israel bashing' evidenced by your paper and others like it must not continue.

Danny Roth
BA U1

Stone throwing

To the Daily:

I am very disappointed by the views of Sara Doron expressed in Alex Roslin's article, "Prospects for a state called Palestine" which appeared on the fifteenth of October. The Israeli Labour Alignment

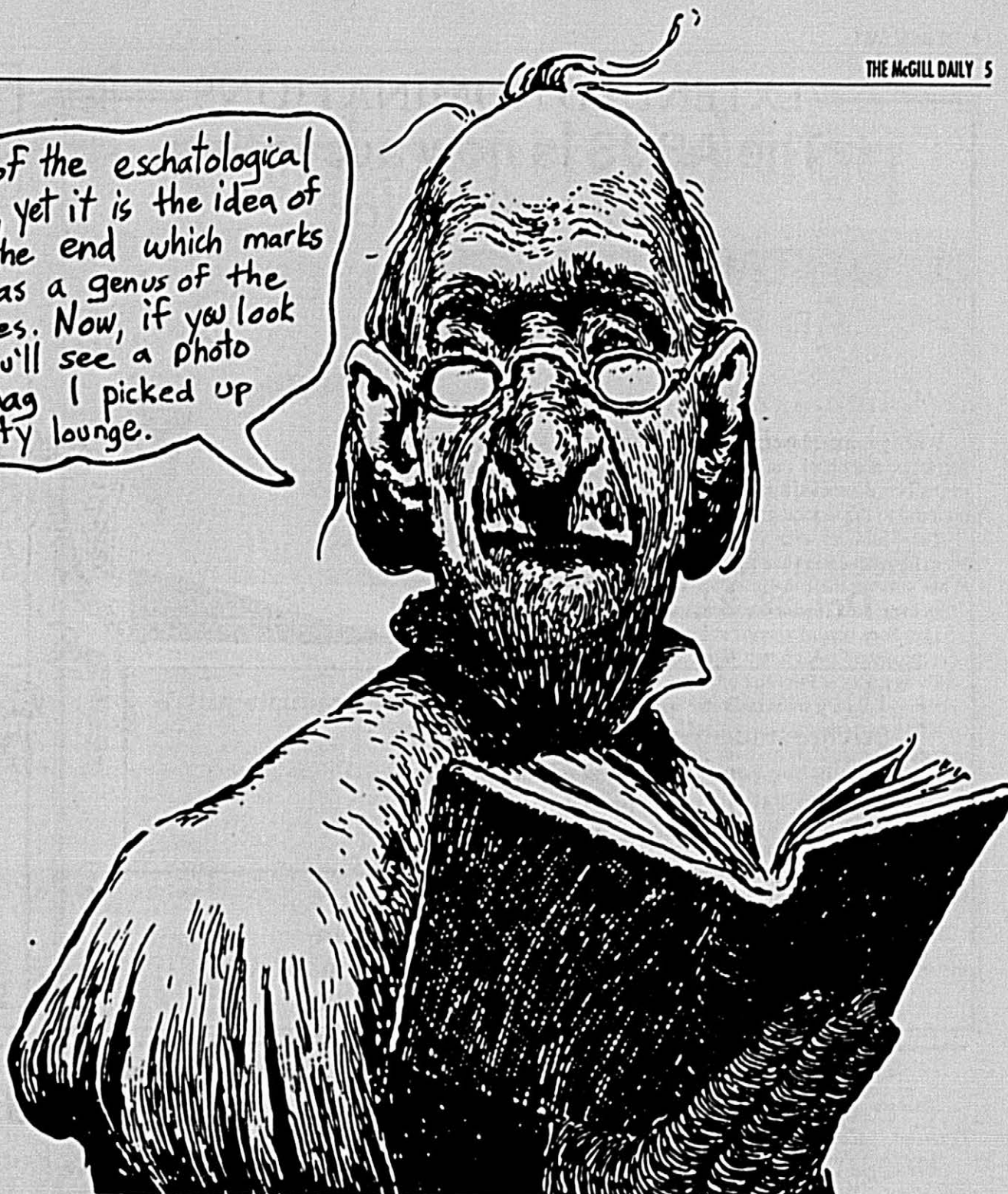
activist said she believed that Palestinians will have a state in the occupied territories, and that the settlement would lead to an enduring peace in the region. Sara Doron is either sadly mistaken or horribly misquoted. The fundamental goal of the PLO is not to regain the occupied territories but to take Jerusalem from the Jewish state to which it was promised in a 1948 United Nations charter. The return of the territories would likely bring about peace for a brief period of time, however, the Palestinian fundamentalists would again rise up in an effort to take Jerusalem.

I would also like to take the opportunity to correct Mr. Roslin's erroneous statement regarding Monday's incident in which 19 Palestinians were killed. Mr. Roslin states that, "Palestinians, angered by plans of a militant Jewish group to take control of the Temple Mount, threw stones..." According to newspapers far more credible than the one for which Mr. Roslin writes, i.e. the New York Times and The Globe and Mail, Palestinians were angered by rumors that a militant Jewish group would march on the Temple Mount.

If stones were hurled every time a rumor of a march circulated, the world would slip from a civilized existence to one of anarchy and chaos. Had the United States not needed to protect their interests in the Persian Gulf, they might have used their UN vote to condemn the Palestinian stone throwers.

David Greenspun
Science U1

We are all aware of the eschatological reality of existence, yet it is the idea of the proximity of the end which marks the apocalyptic as a genus of the teleological species. Now, if you look at the screen you'll see a photo from a porn mag I picked up in the faculty lounge.



The equity test

Imagine a university where a science student could go to her first day of classes and reasonably expect to have a female professor or two. A university where men didn't have a monopoly on senior administrative positions. Where campus activities reflected the fact that most undergraduate students in Canada are women.

BY JEFF HARRINGTON
CANADIAN UNIVERSITY PRESS

It's easier said than done, according to the author of a recent report on the status of women at Acadia University in Wolfville, N.S.

Lack of money and a snail-like response to change are but two of the barriers to eliminating the overt and 'silent' sexism that pervades Acadia and other Canadian universities, says sociology professor Dianne Looker.

Looker's report, based on university records and questionnaires of part- and full-time students, faculty and staff, reveals sexist attitudes at all levels of the university.

"We were told of 'Animal House' behavior in men's residences where awards are given to the men who 'screw the ugliest women,'" Looker wrote in the

report, entitled "The Marginal Majority."

Looker also heard from faculty who boasted they include naked women in their slide shows to "keep students awake."

Looker says violence against women is usually recognized when it takes the form of sexual assault. But she is concerned "the more subtle and pervasive forms of violence," such as making sexist jokes and discrediting the work women do, are ignored far too often.

"Most (male) administrators are fairly well-intentioned, they're not setting out to put women down. They just don't realize some of their actions have that effect," says Looker.

But changing Canada's chronically male-oriented universities is an expensive prospect. At

Acadia, where 21 per cent of full-time faculty last year were women — the national average is now 17.6 per cent — a hiring freeze means faculty equity is out in the cold.

"It's physically impossible for us to make inroads in that direction without some external funding," says Looker.

As universities scramble to save money, they are making more short-term faculty appointments. Looker says a "two-tiered" system is developing in Canadian universities: professors in tenure track positions are largely male, while women dominate the faster-growing lower ranks, where they are "forced to live without job security or adequate wages."

Another problem for female faculty is that new provincial pay equity legislation looks only at job classifications dominated by women, such as librarians and secretaries. Women make up less than a fifth of Canada's faculty and thus gain nothing from the new laws.

At cash-strapped Dalhousie University in Halifax, the newly-appointed "employment equity officer" says the test of the administration's will to change may come only when Dalhousie solves its financial woes.

"Affirmative action takes a lot of money, and a lot of time. It's not easy for anyone to accept change," says Mayann Francis.

A University of Toronto study last year suggested two-thirds of Canadians are against quotas that ensure a fixed number of women are hired. Francis says her biggest challenge may be teaching administrators and faculty that affirmative action is a positive thing for the university.

"We're not lowering standards. We're looking at current methods of evaluation that are having an adverse effect on women, minority groups and the disabled," she says.

But different universities have to take different approaches to affirmative action, says economics professor Jim Sentance of the University of Prince Edward Island.

Institutions such as the Ontario College of Art and Ryerson Polytechnical can perhaps afford radical methods — the two schools are filling positions open due to retirement with only women and 80 per cent women, respectively — because they have access to a pool of qualified applicants. But Sentance says universities like UPEI and Acadia don't have the money to attract that many qualified women.

"One thing that will really get academics' backs up is if they fear the quality of appointments is being compromised," says Sentance, a past president of UPEI's faculty association.

Sentance says universities

must be sensitive to the political repercussions of change and work on every aspect of the university climate.

"You can have the best hiring procedure in the world, but you're not going to be able to get women academics if you fail in all the other areas (such as student, faculty, staff and administration attitudes)," he says.

UPEI's senior administration, like Acadia's and Dalhousie's, is virtually a male preserve. Sentance says the number of female faculty has increased to 17 or 18 per cent from 10 per cent a few years ago. He's optimistic UPEI "might have a policy drafted sometime this academic year."

Back at Acadia, Dianne Looker says she's a "realistic" optimist. The student union, faculty association and board of governors are setting up Status of Women committees in response to her report. Perhaps the report's most contentious recommendation is the formation of an "equity committee" with full veto power over any appointment that violates the proposed new equity policy.

"Veto power? That's exciting," says Dalhousie's Mayann Francis.

"Maybe that's what'll happen in five years if I say nothing's happening. I hope it's not necessary."

EXTENDED NOMINATIONS

The ASUS is now accepting nominations for

VICE-PRESIDENT ADMINISTRATION

Campaign Period Oct. 15 - 22
Extended nominations close
Friday, October 19th
at 3 pm
Election days
Oct. 23, 24, 25

This position is open to all full-time Undergraduate Arts & Science students

Nomination Form pick-up and return at SSMU desk, Union 105
50 ASUS signatures are required
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No love affair between Palestine and Iraq

by Alex Roslin

In the wake of the Gulf crisis, Palestinians have been portrayed as mindless supporters of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. This view is simplistic and obscures the situation, say members of Montréal's Palestinian community.

Long-standing grievances against the United States have led many Palestinians to see the invasion chiefly as a welcome upset of the status quo and of American power, even as most despise Saddam Hussein's long history of brutality.

"It's a sad thing that a dictator like Saddam Hussein has acquired the image of a saviour, but that is what U.S. policy has led to," said Hatem Salman, of the Fondation Québécoise d'Aide au Liban.

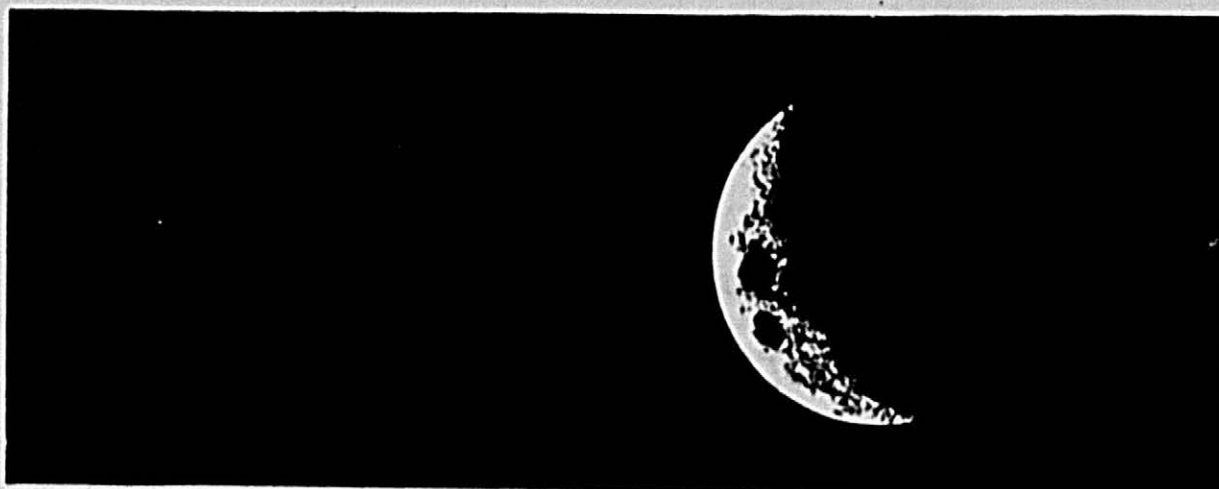
There is a great deal of popular resentment among Arabs because of their grim lot in the international distribution of power, Salman said.

According to many Arabs, the Middle East is the hapless victim of Western geopolitics. Some of the

most powerful Arab states, like Egypt and Saudi Arabia, have become little more than U.S. clients, Salman said.

Among Arabs, Palestinians are perhaps the worst off under the existing status quo, and the most bitter. "Palestinians are so desperate many are willing to die," according to Christina Fernandez, who spent three weeks in the occupied territories this summer. Fernandez, a recent engineering graduate from the University of Alberta, gave a presentation recently at McGill.

Palestinians' hopes for a better life have been dashed by deteriorating socio-economic conditions, according to Abdul-Malik Al-Jabir, of the General Union of Palestinian Students, which organized the presentation. Adding to the frustrations, Al-Jabir said, are two years of fruitless discussions between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and the U.S. government on a Palestinian state. The negotiations finally broke down last summer.



According to Rex Brynen, professor of political science at McGill, Palestinian frustration with the U.S.-backed status quo is the reason for the PLO's opposition to U.S. intervention in the Gulf. From the outset, the PLO has issued unequivocal condemnations of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, he said, but Palestinians reacted with alarm when the U.S. started its military buildup in the Gulf.

"PLO Chair Yassir Arafat isn't particularly fond of Hussein, but he got nothing from the U.S. in the negotiations," Brynen said. "Arafat has always successfully moved with Palestinian opinion, and his position among Palestinians was probably stronger after he opposed the U.S. intervention."

For Arabs terrorized by decades of Western oil politics, Salman said, last Monday's massacre of 19 Palestinians in Jerusalem makes it even

harder to ignore the contrast between Washington's moral and material support for Israel and its brutality toward Palestinians. The U.S. waffled for five days in the UN before lending its support to a mild Security Council rebuke to Israel.

Said Salman, "The American military buildup in the Persian Gulf is yet another sign that people in the Middle East, particularly Palestinians, are pawns of Western power."

BOG BRIEFS

The Board of Governors (hereafter called BoG) is the decision making body of the University and either initiates or approves all official business. Of the 44 members, just four are students. BoG held its monthly meeting on Monday.

MUNASA muffled

BoG is still refusing to discuss legal action between non-academic employees and the University, claiming it could compromise legal proceedings.

MUNASA, the association of non-academic employees, filed a grievance against McGill for excluding 100 Dairy field technicians from MUNASA benefits. When the grievance was ignored, two of the field technicians went to Québec Superior Court for arbitration.

In response, McGill filed a motion in court to block arbitration.

When MUNASA reps to BoG brought forward two motions challenging McGill's actions last month, BoG chair Alex Paterson banned discussion and threw out the motions.

But MUNASA returned to BoG on Monday to challenge the chair's ruling.

Principal Johnston read a letter from McGill legal counsel soundly supporting the position that the affair was sub judice and hence off-limits for debate.

Emeritus Governor Jean Richer jumped to his feet to tell the board that he'd consulted three legal experts. "They nearly laughed in my face," he said, referring to the chair's ruling.

He went on to point out the damage such action could cause to McGill's image, stressing that the technicians are mostly French Canadians.

Paterson eventually moved the MUNASA item to 'Confidential Business' and the board discussed it in closed session.

The dispute will be heard in court November 21 and 22.

New Dean crunches numbers

About half of the students applying to McGill are rejected by admissions, and half of the half accepted turn the offer down.

These statistics were among a stream spewing from the new Dean of Admissions Abbott Conway as he presented his inaugural report to BoG on Monday.

Of the 15 690 students who applied in 1990, 45 per cent were seeking placement in Arts. In descending order, Management, Science and Engineering are the next most popular schools.

Undergraduate enrolment increased in Québec by less than one per cent this year, the lowest provincial rate in Canada. At the Master's level enrolment is up four per cent and there are more PhD candidates than last year — nearly eight per cent more.

In the years between 1981 and 1989, total applicants increased 43 per cent. The figure peaked in 1984 and has since declined, primarily among francophone applicants.

Conway cited politics and McGill's comparatively low cash awards as the reasons behind the decline.

—Heather Mackay

Police unable to cope with spousal violence

by Rachel Rose

Blanca Castillo says police incompetence and insensitivity made her go public about the abduction of her children by their father.

Castillo hasn't seen her two youngest children since September 7, the day their father kidnapped them. Her lawyer, Sylvie Schirm, said Castillo has not received the help she needed from police.

Schirm was so angered by four weeks of police inaction she held a press conference last week with Auberge Transition, a shelter for battered women, to open the matter to public scrutiny.

The police officers' response to this case is symptomatic of the lack of training officers receive, Schirm said.

"One day in four years is certainly not enough" training on how to cope with conjugal violence. Schirm said a permanent and continual dialogue is needed between police and women's shelters.

A police department spokesperson refused to comment on Castillo's allegations of inaction.



"It's really dangerous for the children. I need help. Their father is really dangerous," Castillo told reporters last Friday.

Since August, Castillo has had sole custody of the children. Castillo recently moved out of Auberge Transition and into an apartment in Lasalle with her three sons.

Castillo left two children with her husband, Victoriano Lopez, over the Labour Day weekend. When she went to pick them up he pulled the children into the apartment and locked the door.

Castillo called the police at Station 44, showed them her custody order and begged them to remove the children from their father.

She said one officer told her, "I'm a father too. Fathers have rights too."

Schirm said police seemed more interested in Castillo's citizenship than the children. Castillo is from El Salvador.

Police would not accept the court order proving she had custody — her copy was missing one of three signatures.

Eventually, Castillo entered the apartment with police and found two suitcases packed with the children's clothing. She told police she feared Lopez would leave the country with them. The police replied there was nothing they could do, she said.

Castillo then called the local police station in Lasalle where she lives. They called Schirm who confirmed that Castillo has a valid custody order and asked that the police return to Lopez's house. They didn't until early the next morning, said police spokesperson Norman Couillard.

Police said they were unable to act without a belief that the children were in danger. One police spokesperson said the house looked lived in, the TV was on, and Castillo couldn't think the children were in danger if she had left them with Lopez.

Schirm said the kidnapping was just another form of violence against their mother for which the police are ill-equipped.

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Lesbian/Gay discussion group held Fridays at The Yellow Door Coffee House (3625 Aylmer) at 17h30.

Single, non-recycled satire publication seeks numerous pencil-pushers for page filling. Must like verbs, will supply adjectives. Union 406, 398-6816, deadline Oct. 31.

Landlord/tenant? Family? Consumer law? If you need help sorting out your legal problems call or drop by the McGill Legal Information Clinic - M-Fri/10-5 pm - 398-6792 - Rooms B20, B21 & B01B of the student union building! We're here for you!

McGill Biology Student Union presents an information session on Graduate Studies in the Life Sciences 12h to 14h on Friday, October 19th in Stewart Biology Building, W2/3A.

Thinking of marriage? Sign up for Chaplaincy Service's Preparation Course October 30, Nov. 8, 15 and 22. 7-10 pm. Registration 398-4104.

St. Martha's Community meets Sundays 10:30 am, 3521 University. Informal, ecumenical community. Everyone welcome. Throughout Oct. special series on prayer. Info: R. Clare, 398-4104. Presbyterian-United Church Chaplaincy.

The McGill Film Society poster sale. Amazing selection, low prices. Today and tomorrow, 4:00 - 4:30, ground floor Union. Don't miss it.

McGill Outing Club. Meeting this evening, 7:30 pm Otto Maas 112. Canoeing, hiking, camping etc. Info 398-6817 Union 411.

GALON's Movie Night. "Common Threads" (Oscar winner) & 2nd film. Thursday, Union 425. 7:00 pm. Free Admission.

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November 8
Marty Ailor

"Picking Positions: Theoretical
Logics in Communications Studies"

November 22
Keyan Tomaselli

"Media and Struggle in South Africa"

November 29
Janine Marchessault

"Incorporating the Gaze: The Politics of
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Sales down for corporate eco-types at McGill conference

by M. D. Pavelich

Re-usable unbleached cotton canvas lunch bags may be a hot item for trendy environmental shoppers, but not hot enough to bring them out to a Fair Earth Trade Show.

The show was the marketing component of the Annual Environment Conference of the Canadian Environment Network held at McGill and the Shangri-La Hotel last weekend.

"We had a very good range of kiosks," Canadian Environment Network spokesman Brad Wylynko said Sunday. "For the 200 conference participants, it was a good chance to see what's out there. With participants from across the country, the exhibitors had a national audience."

"But I can't honestly say the show was a success. We just didn't attract the general public."

The McGill chapter of the Quebec Public Interest Research Group (QPIRG) helped run the conference and also prepared a display.

"Among other issues, we deal with waste management," QPIRG spokesperson Andrew Green said.

"We started selling tote mugs over a year ago but every group

sells one now," he said. "So we're stuck with quite a few but we don't sell for profit, anyway. It's all part of public education for us."

But for many, it was business as usual.

"We're trying to replace chocolate bars and Girl Guide cookies in schools," Almost-Perfect Packaging owner Ché Garman said. "Teachers are our best customers. Kids love selling the products as fund-raisers."

"I just want to sell. This hasn't been a lucrative weekend though."

Garman started her packaging alternatives company with items like fabric Christmas gift bags and cotton canvas grocery bags last March in Guelph, Ont.

"This has become more than a full-time job," she said. "I'm having trouble keeping up with orders."

Green Frog Nature Company vendor Angeli Sinanan said although her products are usually in big demand, she was disappointed with trade show sales.

"I sell more out of my boss Andy's apartment," she said.

Ottawa-based Green Frog, started last year by André Séguin, sells recycled paper note pads and

wildlife environmental t-shirts.

Sinanan also said Séguin is committed to environmentalism.

"I enjoy selling for Andy. He really believes in his product," she said. "He doesn't feed any bull lines like a used car salesman."

Séguin donates ten per cent of his profits to environmental groups like the World Wildlife Fund and the Canadian Nature Foundation.

Another vendor, Michael Pugliese of Verdun, is the lone Canadian distributor of the Italian-made Pango plunger, an air pressure device used to clear drains. He was first introduced to the product eight years ago while working in the kitchen cabinet business.

Pugliese struck a deal with the Italian maker last year. He now has contacts with department and hardware stores across Canada.

More than 15 exhibitors made up the Fair Earth Show, including a few large companies like Rubbermaid.

The Canadian Environmental Network is a non-profit, non-government national organization with over 1800 member environmental groups.



Fee hikes fail to reduce university deficit

by Heidi Modro

MONTREAL (CUP)—Despite this fall's first tuition hike in 22 years, university deficits in Québec are still on the rise, says the president of the association of Québec university heads.

Québec universities now have a combined deficit of \$168 million, up from \$150 million last year, said Patrick Kenniff, president of the Conference of Rectors and Principals of Québec Universities (CREPUQ).

And, he said, the situation will probably not improve unless the government decides to inject new

funds into the system. CREPUQ—which lobbied the government to increase tuition fees last year—is also calling on business to contribute to post-secondary education.

Kenniff said universities have less money this year partially because the federal government has made cuts to transfer payments—the money it gives to the provinces to finance education.

Québec universities would need an extra \$50 million a year just to bring them in line with their counterparts in other provinces, he added.

"The tuition fee increase may have helped in injecting new funds, but it's not enough to resolve the

whole problem," said Kenniff, who is also rector of Concordia University.

Québec tuition fees, frozen at \$540 since 1968, increased to \$890 this year, and will climb to \$1240 next year. Universities are also allowed to slap on an extra 10 per cent. The extra money coming in can be spent at the discretion of each individual institution.

The Federation des Etudiants et Etudiantes du Québec (FEEQ) says it's not surprised the deficit is growing.

"We've always known that increasing fees was not the solution to the university underfunding

problem," said Nicholas Plourde, president of FEEQ.

He estimated that increased fees have added about \$80 million to university budgets this year.

The underfunding problem can only be solved if the government decides to spend more on post-secondary education and if big corporations also start contributing, Plourde said.

"You need a concerted effort on everyone's part," he said. "As long as you only depend on students, you'll never be able to solve the problem."

Kenniff said the tuition fee increase has not caused a decrease in

enrolment. He said it has instead increased by 1086 or 0.4 per cent.

But Plourde dismissed Kenniff's claim, saying that between 1985 and 1989, enrolment had been increasing by over 3000 students a year.

"It's still too early in the year to evaluate the effects of the tuition fee increase because only preliminary figures have so far been released this year," Plourde said.

"Many students haven't had to pay their increased tuition yet. That means that many students may still have to drop out."

The McGill Women's Union presents a discussion and demonstration of Polarity Therapy at 17h in room 423, Union Building.

Stephen Caplan, C.A. speaks on making the most of your on-campus interviews at Hillel House, 3460 Stanley, from 12h to 14h. For more information call 845-9171.

The 1990 McGill Book Fair opens at 9h until 21h in Redpath Hall. Over 100 000 new and used books will be on sale. Entrance is free.

Amnesty International Film Week begins with Welcome to Canada in FDA Auditorium at 19h30.

The Public Meeting of the International Socialists presents Debra Murray speaking on "The Struggle for Choice" at 19h in room 425, Union Building.

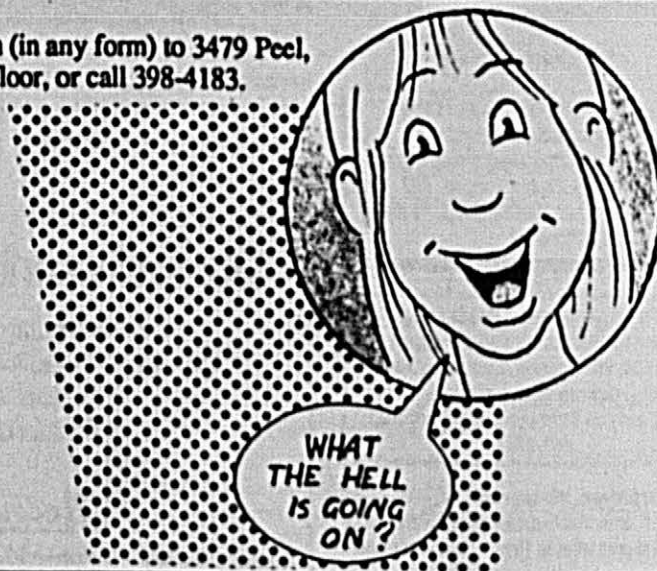
The McGill Film Society Poster Sale takes place today and tomorrow on the ground floor of the Union Building from 9h to 16h30. Call 398-6825 for information.

A Handicraft Sale sponsored by the Grenfell Association of Montreal is taking place from 11h to 15h at Westmount Park Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve.

Conjugal violence and the men who batter women will be discussed by Claude Roy, a therapist and director of the counselling group Pro-Gam at 12h, room 201 at the Faculty of Law.

Pillar Magazine is seeking submissions for its upcoming issue. Please bring photos, illustrations, artwork, poetry, fiction, and non-

fiction (in any form) to 3479 Peel, third floor, or call 398-4183.



TODAY'S EVENTS